

RARITAN VALLEY ARTS ASSOCIATION established 1939

May 2012 Newsletter

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Sunshine Salutations!

We are well into spring now—great time of year—all these wonderful blossoming trees, all the shrubs, and flowers....so much to paint. So much to weed!

And for some added painting inspiration, we hope you'll all come out on Monday, May 21st to see **watercolorist Diana Patton** (you know an editor has to speak in the third person) demonstrate on watercolor paper, clayboard, and Yupo. She has some pretty amazing watercolor "**tricks**" or **techniques** she is dying to teach you. Some of these can also be used in acrylic painting as well, so do come. Patton is the recipient of over 135 awards, and is a full member of the NJWCS, the Garden State Watercolor Society, the Essex Watercolor Club, the AAPL, and the Soc. of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators (she will have her picture book *Charlemagne to the Rescue* available for sale \$10 at the meeting). Eleanor DeMott and Rosemary Zangara will be doing the Hospitality for this meeting and RVAA thanks Eleanor and Rosemary for this.

Thanks to Marge McGovern....Our trip to the Big Apple....was *terrific*. Marge stepped up to volunteer and masterminded a great trip on Saturday, April 21st, complete with refreshments at the end, and handouts on the bus before. A busload of compatible art lovers and artists had a fantastic day at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Salmagundi Club for the American Watercolor Society Show. Some of us also enjoyed the two special painting exhibits at the Forbes Museums as well. The weather cooperated with great warmth and beauty. If you missed the trip this year, you'll surely want to go next year.

Arts on Division will be a lovely extravaganza. You can go to <http://www.findsomerville.com/pub/gen/event/1429/fulltext#.T4Sj-IZCuCU.email> It is also Restaurant Week in Somerville—look for bargains. Art and special performances will run from **May 17th through May 20th**. The **Pop-up Gallery is at 59 Main Street** and there will be exhibits of Acrylic, Alkyds, Gouache, Oil, and Watercolor; Photography, Beaded Jewelry, SAORI Weaving, Metal and Stone Sculpture, and Pen and Ink Drawings. Work by RVAA artists Amy Erdman, Linda Lam, Donna Souren, and Diana Patton will be included.

The Hamilton Street Gallery in Bound Brook is having a juried show from July 8th to August 9th, entitled **Sea Life**. You may submit up to 5 digital file submissions via email to info@hamiltonstreetgallery.com or up to 5 images on a CD rom, mailed through the Post Office to Hamilton Street Gallery, P.O. Box 710, Bound Brook, NJ, 08805. For complete information go to www.hamiltonstreetgallery.com. For this exhibition "we invite artists to uncover the human relationship with the sea. Some aspects to explore might include its beauty and omnipotence, as a life source, in history and myth, and its environmental impact." (Editor's note—sounds like an interesting theme)

St. John on the Mountain, Bernardsville, will hold its annual art show in the fall. Slides or digital images are usually due in the summer and although your editor hasn't the final details yet, you can always send a self-addressed envelop to them at 379 Mount Harmony Road, Bernardsville, NJ 07924, or phone (908) 766-2282 or email office@sjotm.org

We are sad to tell you that RVAA member Carol Sciacca passed away April 27th. We received the news from Carol's partner Sharleen Leahey, who writes that "I want to express my gratitude to you and your members for making Carol feel welcome in your community of artists. It was very exhilarating for her to gain some measure of recognition for her talent through your exhibitions and meetings. Your group gave her much joy." Carol was a devoted employee for 37 years in the telecommunications industry, most recently as an associate engineer at Century Link in Clinton, N.J. A gifted landscape artist, she recently exhibited her paintings in the Somerset County Administration Building. She participated in many events in New York City, Washington, D.C., and New Jersey, to promote peace, justice, and human rights. Carol rescued countless cats, and was an avid birdwatcher, hiker, gardener and cook as well as a gifted videographer. (Editor's note: to view a lovely musical tribute to Carol, please go to <http://www.rumorsofpeace.net/home.cfm>) Sharleen invites you to view her guest book at http://www.legacy.com/guestbook/StarLedger/guestbook.aspx?n=Carol-Sciacca&pid=157304464&cid=full&eid=sp_gbupdate . Our sympathy goes out to Sharleen and to Carol's family and sons.

Worth repeating.... Our April demonstrator, Jim Leslie, writes about a great opportunity for artists to get free samples and learn tons about **oil, acrylic and watercolor** at a special one day event. "Winsor & Newton and Liquitex Artist Materials present a day of art demonstrations in conjunction with the Collective Art Tank and Gallery 13. Join us for a day of free demonstrations on various topics and techniques in oils, acrylics and watercolours." Gallery 13 is at the Shoppes at the Arcade, 658 Cookman Ave., Asbury Park, NJ. The date is Saturday, June 9th, from 10 am to 5:30 pm. Space will be limited. Register today at www.collectivearttank.com. If you have any questions, you can contact Jim at info@leslieartstudio.com

Workshop Tom Valenti's Oil Painting Workshop is coming up soon.. "he is a wonderful giving instructor...if you are a beginner or more advanced in Oil painting, he will help you stretch and grow as an artist" May 19th and 26th, from 9:30—4:30, lunch included. 1 day for \$110; 2 days for \$200. For more information please Debarrystudioarts@gmail.com or phone Christina at 973/525-2544.

CALL FOR ARTISTS: Postcards are used to share stories: where we have been, what we have done, and where we are going. The theme for the 2012 Secret Postcard Fundraiser and Exhibition will be Visual Storytelling: New Jersey History, Myths, and Legends. Local stories will be retold by artists through the visual imagery of postcards. Artists are invited to create 4"x 6" postcards in any medium and mail their creations to the Red Mill Museum Village in Clinton, New Jersey. The postcards will be displayed anonymously and signed on the reverse side, so that the artist remains a secret until after the cards are purchased and their signature is revealed. All participating artists, however, will be listed in the exhibition guide. The postcards will be exhibited at the museum from July 8th through September 28, 2012 and sold to the public as part of a fundraising effort. There is no entry fee and no return of artwork. Postcards must be received no later than June 30, 2012 to be included in the show. All proceeds from the event will benefit the Red Mill Museum Village. Participating artists, museum members, and select guests will be invited to the Secret Postcard Reception and Auction from 4:00-6:00 PM on Sunday, August 26, 2012. Visit www.theredmill.org to learn more!

MEMBER NEWS

DIANA PATTON is this month's "Meet the Author" in the paper *Kidsville News (Union County Edition)*. You can go online to see it at <http://www.ifoldsflip.com/t/14568> and turn to page 7 for the article. The paper is in hard copy also. Diana will also be teaching watercolor May 15th at the Somerset County Teen Arts Festival at Raritan Valley Community College. She will also be the cover artist for the June issue of *The Connection* magazine.

Please, please, please, RVAA members, do snail mail or email me your news. I'll save it all for our next Newsletter, which will be in September.

If you wish to see our Newsletters and photos in full color, please go to our website www.raritanvalleyarts.org

Happy Painting!
Diana